

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 18, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 64**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Kuehl**

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aanestad, Ackerman, Alquist, Ashburn, Baldwin, Bates, Battin, Baugh, Bock, Brewer, Calderon, Campbell, Cardenas, Cardoza, Cedillo, Corbett, Correa, Cox, Cunneen, Davis, Dickerson, Dutra, Firebaugh, Florez, Gallegos, Granlund, Havice, Hertzberg, Honda, House, Jackson, Kaloogian, Keeley, Knox, Leach, Lempert, Leonard, Longville, Lowenthal, Machado, Maddox, Maldonado, Margett, Mazzoni, McClintock, Migden, Nakano, Olberg, Oller, Robert Pacheco, Rod Pacheco, Papan, Pescetti, Romero, Runner, Scott, Shelley, Steinberg, Strickland, Strom-Martin, Thompson, Thomson, Torlakson, Vincent, Washington, Wayne, Wesson, Wiggins, Wildman, Wright, and Zettel)*

May 10, 2000

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Assembly Joint Resolution No. 64—Relative to condemning show trials of thirteen Iranian Jews.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 64, as introduced, Kuehl. Islamic Republic of Iran: show trials.

This measure would condemn the arrest and show trials of 13 Jewish men and boys of Shiraz and Isfahan, urge the government of the United States to take all possible diplomatic, political, and economic measures to protest the

show trials, including refusing to resume diplomatic relations with Iran, and would urge the Islamic Republic of Iran to impose no punishment or penalty on the 13 Jews, and to immediately and unconditionally release them.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, In March 1999, the Islamic Republic of  
2 Iran arrested 13 Jewish men and boys in the cities of  
3 Shiraz and Isfahan: Navid Balzadeh, Nejat Beroukhim,  
4 Farhad Seleh, Shahrokh Paknahad, Ramin Farzam,  
5 Farzad Kashi, Faramarz Kashi, Asher Zadmehr, Nasser  
6 Yaghoub Levy Haim, Javid Beit Yaghoub, Ramin Nemati,  
7 Dani Tefilin, and Omid Tefilin; and

8 WHEREAS, Iran has accused the 13 Jews of espionage  
9 on behalf of Israel and the United States of America, a  
10 crime punishable by death under Iranian law; and

11 WHEREAS, No Jewish citizen of Iran is permitted to  
12 have access to any sensitive government information, and  
13 the accusation of espionage is a pretext for the ongoing  
14 persecution and scapegoating of Jews in Iran, which has  
15 resulted in the execution of between 35 and 50 Iranian  
16 Jews since Iran's Islamic Revolution of 1979; and

17 WHEREAS, The 13 Jews appear to be pawns in a power  
18 struggle between so-called "moderates" and  
19 "conservatives" in the Iranian government; and

20 WHEREAS, Iran imprisoned the 13 Jews for over a year  
21 without officially charging them with any crime; has  
22 commenced the trials without permitting them to retain  
23 legal counsel of their choice; has prevented international  
24 observers from attending the trials; and has even denied  
25 members of the families of the 13 Jews access to the  
26 courtroom, such that the trials may fairly be described as  
27 show trials; now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of*  
29 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature strongly  
30 condemns the arrest and show trials of the 13 Jewish men  
31 and boys of Shiraz and Isfahan, urges the government of  
32 the United States of America to take all possible  
33 diplomatic, political, and economic measures to protest  
34 the show trials, including, but not limited to, refusing to

1 resume diplomatic relations with Iran, and urges the  
2 Islamic Republic of Iran to impose no punishment or  
3 penalty on the 13 Jews, and to immediately and  
4 unconditionally release them; and be it further

5 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
6 transmit copies of this resolution to the President and  
7 Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the  
8 House of Representatives, and to each Senator and  
9 Representative from California in the Congress of the  
10 United States.

